

(Washington, D.C.) – The vision of a national museum dedicated to American Latino history, culture and art came one step closer to reality after passage of H.R. 512, the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of the National Museum of the American Latino Act of 2007, in the House of Representatives.

Rep. Gwen Moore, a cosponsor of the bill, said, “The National Mall in Washington, D.C. includes museums dedicated to American History, American Indians, and the Smithsonian Institute’s Board of Regent’s recently selected the site for the new [National Museum of African American History and Culture](#). However, this nation has few permanent exhibits and cultural contributions honoring its nearly 40 million Latino residents. This legislation will rectify that inequity.”

H.R. 512 creates a 23-member commission charged with producing a national conference to bring together stakeholders, experts, policymakers and other interested parties to discuss the museum’s viability. In addition, within 24 months of enactment, the commission would be required to design a fundraising plan to create a public-private partnership as well as a report to Congress detailing a recommended plan of action on how to best begin work on the museum.

H.R. 512 passed the House of Representatives unanimously on February 6, 2007.

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